

Lamy, I have no interest in World Postal Tournament, sorry!

GLOBETROTTER...GLOBETROTTER...GLOBETROTTER...GLOBETROTTER... Vol IV No7

From: Shaun Dennick, 313 Woodway Lane, Walsgrave, Coventry, UK
Tel. 0203-618922 Home 0926-311545 Work

I will start with a letter I sent to Xavier Blanchot for inclusion in his monthly(?) publication 'La Lettre du Diplomate'

Xavier,

I have put this little article together which is a complete turnaround of my WDC notation - I think it will appease the yanks!!

The WDC Rotation

OK!! This subject has been thrashed to death, I know; but we have still not been able to resolve it with a 'final solution'. So more 'ear-bending' on the emotive subject I'm afraid.

There are numerous options available to us, but I have come up with something quite new, and I think it should satisfy all sides in the world of Diplomacy. The only immediate question is whether the USA or France hold WDC in 1995, but I will come onto that later. My new notation allows the tournament to be held in Europe every 2nd and 3rd year respectively, punctuated by the USA and a USA/Australia successively e.g.

Option 1

1994 Europe(UK)
1995 Europe(France)
1996 USA
1997 Australia
1998 Europe(Sweden??)
1999 USA
2000 Europe(UK??)
2001 USA
2002 Australia
2003 Europe

Option 2

Europe(UK)
USA
Europe(France)
USA
Australia
Europe(Sweden??)
USA
Europe
USA
Australia

As you can see the pattern is the same, but it all depends on how we start it up. Europe and the USA get equal proportions of WDC while Australia gets it every 5 years. I do, of course, include Canada in the USA group.

I know it looks like a change of heart, but I am allowed to change my mind aren't I? The reasons why are thus:-

1. Cost of travel to the USA from Europe can be just as cheap as within Europe. For instance a flight to Baltimore could be just as cheap as a flight to Vienna from the UK. Furthermore, the alternative to flying within Europe is to use the car, so Paris is pretty easy to get to and if you get 4 people in a car, this makes the journey cheaper still. Going to Stockholm, for instance, would not be so easy, but when you consider that a Californian has to go further for a convention in Raleigh than for a Brit to go to Stockholm, it does penalise those Americans who cannot attend WDC in their own country because

of this very fact.

2. There are only a few tried and tested countries that have the ability to hold WDC; UK, USA, France, Australia and possibly Canada and Sweden. All others will need to be assessed before WDC could be assigned. Within Europe it would be better for a prospective country to hold EDC (EuroDipCon) first.

3. With a logical sequence we can ascertain the site of a WDC at the preceeding WDC held in that zone ie the next European WDC will be ascertained at the previous European WDC, so in Option 1 above WDC 2000 will be 'voted' upon in 1998! The Australians can be left to decide the site for their WDC's themselves.

4. Changes to the system can be made if more countries join the rotation, but I think we are a long way off that at this stage and it should not really be a serious consideration.

Finally, I would hope that Europe (to include the UK) will find this acceptable, the idea of splitting Europe into more zones is too premature, the more I think about it the simpler this system will be.

Universal suffrage??

How do we vote? So far there has been little headway made in this field, with only Iain Bowen's suggestion of 10 votes per country maximum to decide the 1995 site of WDC being mooted. In theory his suggestion is pretty good, but it is based on people attending WDC IV to vote, and I don't think it is fair to those that cannot attend. Unfortunately I think there has to be a postal ballot as then everybody can vote. Keep the minimum number of votes per country at 10, and divide the votes cast into two percentages according to the number of votes cast ie if the UK had 33 votes for France and 21 for USA this would be 61.1% for France and 38.9% for the USA. All the percentages would be added together and divided by the number of voting countries. Any country not registering 10 votes will be lumped together under a 'Rest of the World' banner counting as one country. In order to execute the ballot we need prominent 'zines to print a ballot paper within their pages which will have space for name, address and vote cast. All votes should be received by someone (me??) and published to include exact votes from everyone.

Now the disadvantages of this system are that there could be dummy votes cast under pseudonyms with false addresses and some votes may not arrive as the postal system may screw them up. The only way of resolving the first problem is to only accept an official voting form - creates problem no. 2, some voters may not be able to get hold of a form. I can only

... that they get a form from the organizer.

'Zines from the US could include 'World Diplomacy' and 'Diplomacy World', 'Northern Flame' from Canada, 'Beautiful Losers' from Australia and 'Y Ddraig Goch' in the UK. Others may have them too of course.

There we have it - does anyone have a better idea?

Worldwide Diplomacy Tournaments 1993

1. 01-02 May 3rd Coup de France in Paris, France
2. 15-16 May 5th French Masters in Paris, France
3. 22-23 May Eternam Trophy in Paris, France
4. 28-31 May DixieCon in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, USA
5. 05-06 Jun 2nd Gascony Tournament in Bordeaux, France
6. 25-27 Jun 2nd Swedish Diplomacy Championship, Stockholm
7. 01-04 Jul Origins Diplomacy Tournament in Fort Worth, Texas, USA
8. 02-04 Jul AtlantiCon in Baltimore, Maryland, USA
9. 23-26 Jul British Individual and Team Tournament, Birmingham, UK
10. 06-08 Aug Canadian Diplomacy Championship, Toronto, Canada
11. 12-15 Aug Avalon Hill Diplomacy Championship, Baltimore, USA
12. 03-06 Sep **1st European Championship in Paris, France**
13. 03-06 Sep US Diplomacy Championship, San Mateo, California, USA
14. 12-14 Nov PhilCon in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA
15. 19-21 Nov British Diplomacy Championship, Birmingham, UK

There are obviously other tournaments to be announced, and those for which I have not got dates. Australia has already had its National Championship, held in Canberra and won by Anthony Swinnerton, a few top names down under being pushed down the finishing order!

If anyone is interested in going to any of these tournaments I can, perhaps, help with travel arrangements. Many of you know that I am in the travel business, so should be useful for such events! I am definately going to the European Championships in Paris and hoping to go to one other foreign event this year - possibly the Swedish Championship as I want to be part of the L4E team again to defend our Swedish Team crown.

Obviously the travel arrangements are for UK readers only - I find it difficult to get cheap fares starting outside the UK.

Another thought - if I can get a minimum of 10 people to fly to Paris from London Heathrow or Gatwick, or even Stansted, I may be able to get a very good rate. If you are interested give me a call. Whilst you are in Paris, accommodation is often free for foreign delegates to Diplomacy tournaments, but don't take this as definate.

Home wanted!!

With the sudden 'implosion' of YdG, I need to look for a new home in a British 'zine...I would like to think that Smodnoc would be a suitable candidate as Toby Harris is both an excellent Diplomacy player and very enthusiastic about tournament Diplomacy; therefore I would assume the readership of Smodnoc may also be inclined to provide feedback for me on the subject of Worldwide Tournament Diplomacy. As my knowledge of 'zines is rather limited now that I only see a couple, maybe there could be somewhere else Globetrotter could live? I just can't see the 'zine succeeding by itself as it is the first truly Face-to-face Diplomacy 'zine!!

*Subjunctive of 'Beautiful Women' in Australia
'Lepanto 4 Free' in Sweden*

Questionnaire

I would be interested to hear from anyone who reads this, from any part of the world, to fill in this questionnaire and send it back to me a.s.a.p.

Name...

Address...

Telephone...

1. Do you prefer postal or Face-to-face play?
2. Do you attend Diplomacy conventions?
3. If so, which have you attended?
4. Have you ever attended a WorldDipCon? If so which one(s)?
5. Would you like to attend a future WorldDipCon?
6. Are you more likely to attend a WorldDipCon rather than a smaller convention?
7. Would you travel abroad to attend a Diplomacy convention?
8. If yes, would you go as far as the USA or Australia(if European)?
Europe(if US or Australian)
9. Would you go to a convention abroad if the price was right?
10. If you would not travel abroad to a Diplomacy convention would it be because...
 - a) Too expensive
 - b) Family commitments
 - c) Not that keen on Diplomacy
 - d) Language barriers
 - e) other...
11. Below are some countries in which Diplomacy tournaments take place, please tick which you would most like to visit...

Australia	France	Belgium	Austria	Norway
Sweden	USA	Canada	Denmark	

Please return a copy of this to myself: Shaun Derrick, 313 Woodway Lane, Walsgrave, Coventry, UK, CV2 2AP